

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

O'CONNOR

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Appln. No.: New Application

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 19, 2003

FOR: COVERING FOR BOARDS

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November 19, 2003

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER
37 CFR §1.102 AND M.P.E.P. §708.02, VIII

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions to make the above-identified application special under the procedures set forth in Subsection VIII of M.P.E.P. 708.02. The Petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) is filed herewith.

The application as originally filed includes 3 independent claims and thirty eight dependent claims. Since there is disclosed only one specific embodiment of the invention, the pending claims are submitted to be directed to one invention. However, in the event that the Examiner does require restriction, Applicant agrees to elect without traverse.

Filed with this Petition is a statement that a pre-examination search was made. The statement indicates the scope of the search. Also attached is a Form PTO-1449 listing

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references found in the search and prior art references of which Applicant was previously aware.

A detailed discussion which points out with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111(b) and (c) how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter of the claims is part of the statement. A copy of each of the discussed references is filed herewith.

It is respectfully submitted that the present Petition taken with the attachments enumerated above is sufficient to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.102 and specifically the provisions of M.P.E.P. 708.02, Subsection VIII.

Accordingly, a granting of the present Petition and an advancement of the examination of this application is respectfully requested.

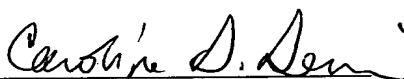
Respectfully submitted,

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